

Nashville District

Human Resources Newsletter

"News You Can Use"

Issue 02-15-03
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The purpose of this newsletter is to keep Nashville District employees informed about personnel issues, concerns, and topics. You are encouraged to review the information and disseminate to your organization. If there are particular areas of interest that you would like to see addressed in future issues, an article of general interest, or general comments, please contact John Restey at 615-736-5538 or John.G.Restey@lrm02.usace.army.mil.

General News:

RETIREMENT

Ms. Janice Marsh, Personnel Management Specialist in the Office of the Director, SC CPOC, retired January 3, 2003, after more than 33 years of Federal service. Janice began her career at Redstone Arsenal, AL as an intern in 1969 and subsequently moved to the Corps of Engineers. She served as Chief, Management Employee Relations and Training at the U.S. Army Engineer Districts in Rock Island, IL and Nashville, TN before joining the SC CPOC in 1997. Janice has an infectious wit and a staunch work ethic that her coworkers and customers love and admire. Janice plans to spend her retirement discovering new talents and interests. We wish her every success.

RESUMIX

The Department of the Army has completed transition from Easy ACCES to Resumix. To apply for positions previously covered by Easy ACCES, applicants will need to use the Resumix procedures for the locations of interest. This will mean applying for individual jobs via vacancy announcements. For additional information on job application procedures, please go to: [<http://cpol.army.mil/employ/>](http://cpol.army.mil/employ/).

The Army Centralizes Automated Referral System

Army has consolidated all the resumes maintained by the Northeast, Southwest, South Central and North Central civilian Personnel Operations Centers into one central database. This consolidation was completed late in 2002. What does this mean to you as an applicant:

*One resume will be on file for the centralized regions. There is no need to submit a new resume if you have one on file.

*Resumes submitted through the Army Civilian Resume Builder (<http://cpol.army.mil/>, click on Employment, then Army's Resume Builder) will automatically flow into the centralized referral database. This is the fastest way to get a resume into the centralized referral database. If you are applying through the Army Civilian Resume Builder, you will continue to select the CPOCs as you do now to send your resume. The system will automatically send the resume to the CPOC you identified or to the centralized database as appropriate.

*Applicants will submit a new resume after they have accepted a permanent position. This does not apply to temporary promotions or temporary reassignments.

*Self-nominations through the Vacancy Announcement Board (<http://cpol.army.mil/>, click on Employment, then Army's Vacancy Announcement) will be posted automatically to the centralized referral database with on line confirmation.

*ANSWER (<http://cpol.army.mil/>, click on Employment, then ANSWER) will be the method for applicant notification. It is the best way to review your most recent resume on file.

*The West, Pacific, Europe, and Korea CPOCs will join the consolidation in Phase II of this process. Until Phase II, applicants wishing consideration for positions in any of the non-centralized regions will need to submit a separate resume with the appropriate supplemental data sheet to each of the non-centralized regions.

If you have questions concerning the new system, please contact your Human Resources Generalist.

Health And Benefits:

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS

Effective January of this year, individuals born in 1938 will have to wait until two months after age 65 before becoming eligible for full Social Security retirement. In 2004,

those born in 1939 will be not be eligible until four months after reaching age 65. Those born on January 1 will fall under the regulations of the previous year. The full retirement age will continue to rise annually until it reaches age 67 for those born in 1960 or later. Individuals can still retire as early as age 62, but they will receive reduced payments. The new Social Security age requirements do not affect the Medicare entitlement age, which remains at 65 For more information call your local social security office or visit social security's website www.ssa.gov.

FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS
(FEHB) PROGRAM
OPPORTUNITY FOR AFFECTED BLUE CROSS
AND BLUE SHIELD SERVICE BENEFIT PLAN
MEMEBERS IN TNENNESSEE,
ENROLLMENT CODES 104, 105, 111, AND 112
TO
CHANGE ENROLLMENT

The Hospital Corporation of America (HCA) Hospitals in Tennessee no longer participate in the Blue Cross and Blue Shield (BCBS) of Tennessee Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) network effective December 31, 2002.

When a health plan is negotiating a PPO contract at the time of provider directory printing, the plan is required to note this in their provider directory. BCBS of Tennessee made a decision not to notify BCBS Service Benefit Plan members of the negotiations with the HCA Hospitals in Tennessee. Therefore, Office of Personnel Management is authorizing an opportunity for affected BCBS Service Benefit Plan enrollees, enrollment codes 104, 105, 111, and 112, in Tennessee to change their enrollment. BCBS of Tennessee will send a letter to affected enrollees advising them of this opportunity to change enrollment.

This opportunity to change enrollment will begin immediately and continue through March 17, 2003. The effective date of all enrollments changes will be the beginning of the pay period following the one in which the enrollee makes the change.

Changes must be made through the Army Benefits Center (ABC Center) via the website: <https://www.abc.army.mil>, or by calling the ABC Center toll free number 1-877-276-9287.

Employees currently not enrolled in the above BCBS enrollment codes 104, 105, 111, and 112 are not eligible to make a health benefit program change.

If you have questions concerning this opportunity, call your Human Resources Office Generalist.

Food For Thought:

When you stop jumping ahead, when you stop looking back, it is amazing how effective you can be right where you are!